



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 103

February Session, 2008

House Bill No. 5329

House of Representatives, March 20, 2008

The Committee on Energy and Technology reported through REP. FONTANA, S. of the 87th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING RADIATION RELEASES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22a-135 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

3 (a) The Department of Environmental Protection shall: (1) Review
4 the plans for and operation of safety programs at nuclear plants; (2)
5 make recommendations to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
6 concerning third-party inspection of components and construction of
7 nuclear plants for the purpose of improving quality assurance plans
8 and programs; (3) require the immediate reporting to the
9 Commissioner of Environmental Protection or his designee, which
10 may be another state agency, by licensees of the United States Nuclear
11 Regulatory Commission which operate nuclear power generating
12 facilities in this state as soon as the licensee has knowledge or, in the
13 exercise of reasonable care should have had knowledge of (A) any
14 release of radiation which is unplanned, unmonitored or which
15 exceeds design standards and specifications established by the Nuclear

16 Regulatory Commission, and (B) any occurrence, incident or other
17 abnormal circumstance, unless it is immediately evident that such
18 occurrence, incident or circumstance is not required to be reported
19 within twenty-four hours or sooner to the Nuclear Regulatory
20 Commission; (4) monitor radiation originating from nuclear plants and
21 perform tests to detect any buildup of radioactivity in the soil, water,
22 plants or animals of the state; (5) review the training and education of
23 workers at nuclear plants to insure awareness of the possible risks of
24 cancer and future genetic effects; (6) represent the interests of the state
25 in federal and state regulatory hearings and other administrative
26 actions concerning nuclear plants which affect the state; (7) intervene
27 in federal proceedings and petition federal agencies for revision of
28 existing regulations where appropriate; (8) conduct periodic on-site
29 evaluations of the effectiveness and enforcement of federal regulations
30 for the packaging and transportation of radioactive material; (9) study
31 plans for, and hazards inherent in the decommissioning of Connecticut
32 nuclear plants including the possible future use of land now in use by
33 a nuclear power facility; (10) study the storage problems posed by high
34 level wastes; (11) study and, in cooperation with the state police,
35 monitor the security of nuclear plants to assure that the dangers from
36 sabotage and terrorism are minimized; (12) monitor sources of ionizing
37 radiation, microwave radiation and radioactive materials within the
38 state; (13) review the state emergency plan for radiation safety; and
39 (14) investigate out-of-state potential radiological hazards which may
40 have a significant adverse effect upon the health or safety of the people
41 of the state. The commissioner shall charge each of the four nuclear-
42 powered commercial electric power generating plants an annual fee of
43 sixty thousand dollars for monitoring radiation released from such
44 plants. Nuclear fuels radiation facilities shall pay an annual fee of
45 fifteen thousand dollars for monitoring such plants.

46 (b) In addition to the reporting required of a licensee pursuant to the
47 provisions of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, the
48 department may require the reporting immediately or within such
49 time period as the department may designate of any additional
50 occurrence, incident or other abnormal circumstance which is not

51 required to be reported within twenty-four hours or sooner to the
52 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The department shall adopt
53 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to carry out the provisions
54 of this subsection.

55 (c) Licensees shall post on their web sites all plans for routine and
56 continuous releases of radiation to the atmosphere, including dates,
57 times and fissile materials, as soon as such releases are scheduled.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2008	22a-135

ET *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires certain licensees to post information on their web sites, and has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5329*****AN ACT CONCERNING RADIATION RELEASES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires a nuclear power plant operator to post on its website all plans for routine and continuous releases of radiation, including their dates and times and the types of radioactive material to be released. An operator must post the information as soon as the release is scheduled.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2008

COMMITTEE ACTION

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 21 Nay 0 (03/06/2008)